

Please note that minutes are published in draft form until approved at the next Council meeting

MINUTES OF THE GRESSENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2026 AT 7.00PM IN THE READING ROOM

11474 Present: Councillor Beazley – Chair Councillor Reader
 Councillor Radford Councillor Day
 Councillor Crisp Councillor Melton
 Councillor Keidan Sue Horton (clerk)

Also in attendance: Councillor Atterwill, Councillor Duffield

8 members of the public

11475 To receive apologies for absence – Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris,

11476 Declarations of interest – All Councillors in attendance excepting Councillor Radford, declared an interest in The Swan Public House.

11477 The Chairman presented Barbara with a card and bouquet and thanked her on behalf of the Parish Council for all her work on the News and Views magazine.

11478 To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2nd December 2025 – The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2nd December were agreed by all Councillors present and signed by the Chairman.

11479 To report progress on items not on the agenda from the last meeting (information only).
Cllr Beazley reported that emails had been sent to both gravel companies and the haulage company regarding the lorries travelling through the village. Thanks were given to Cllr Kiddle-Morris for taking the necessary action.

11480 Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public.

Cllr Beazley confirmed the location of the Surveyors Pit for a resident. The land is owned by the Parish Council through a charity after being given originally by Breckland Council.

A resident confirmed that the SAM2 sign would be back in the village on 5th April.

A member of the pub committee reported that a parcel delivery box being attached to the wall of the pub, was stopped in the process of being erected. It was agreed that the pub would not be a suitable site however it was further agreed that there may be a need for one in the village but further information would be needed and, also the views of the residents. **AP – clerk to put information in N&V and add to March agenda**

Details of “A Concert for Loraine” were given. The date being 28th February at 7.30pm in St Mary’s Church. Tickets available at the shop.

11481 Reporting of any Highways Matters including:

- To receive any highways defects
- Pot hole reported in Bilney Road (W3W reunion.whizzing.hope). An end of speed limit sign was reported missing from Bilney Road. **AP - clerk to report to Highways**

An email from a resident was received confirming that a pot hole had been reported and repaired within 24 hours.

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- 11482 Update on the Gressenhall Community Car Scheme – 839 trips were covered during January. Total cost = £370.35, fares received = £174.80, balance to pay = £195.55. Breckland payment = £102.88, Parish Council payment = £92.67. It was confirmed that details of all journeys would be sent to Breckland Council in support of the grant application 26-27. It was reported that some journeys were unable to be completed in January due to the few drivers available. It was agreed to add a request for drivers to The Box. **AP**
- 11483 To discuss the future of the Surveyors Pit – to be discussed at a charity meeting following the parish council meeting.
- 11484 To discuss and consider planning matters - ENF/244/25 – Land to the West of Longham Road, Gressenhall, It was reported that a Planning Contravention Notice had been served on the occupant on 8th January with 21 days to respond. **AP – clerk to provide update at next meeting.**

PL/2025/1816/CLOPUD – Three Gables, 105 Bittering Street, Gressenhall Proposed loft conversion with rear dormer window – **granted no conditions**

PL/2025/1812/HOU – 107 Bittering Street, Gressenhall Conversion of outbuilding to provide additional occasional residential accommodation for friends and family – **Granted with conditions** Cllr Keidan requested details of the conditions. **AP**

PL/2025/1928/HOU – Mynholm 72 Bittering Street, Gressenhall Proposed loft conversion to include raising of roofline and extension to side of property – **Granted with conditions**

- 11485 Report from County Councillor – No update
- 11486 Report from District Councillor – Cllr Atterwill confirmed that the 26-27 council tax increase for Band D properties will be £4.95.

Cllr Atterwill reported that Breckland Bridge, a property investment company set up by Breckland Council, is pulling out of a deal due to financial difficulties and impending local government reorganisation. The council has agreed to write off around £500,000 owed by Breckland Bridge.

It was reported that a public spaces protection order had been placed on Dereham town centre to prohibit anti-social behaviour.

Cllr Duffield confirmed that he had received an email from the clerk regarding the Gressenhall Community Grant application.

- 11487 Financial Matters - **Payments made in December:**
Clerk Salary and expenses, Mrs S Horton - £287.00, Wright Clear Pest Control - £150.00, Gressenhall Community Car scheme (Parish) - £83.35, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme (Breckland) - £111.25
Payments made in January: Refund of Surveyors Pit rent = £35.00, Community Heartbeat Trust (defibrillator battery) = £318.00
To confirm payments for January:
Clerk Salary and expenses, Mrs S Horton - £287.00, Reading Room hire - £15.00, Gressenhall Community Car scheme (Parish) £92.67, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme (Breckland) - £102.88

All Councillors present agreed to payment of the accounts. It was agreed Councillors Beazley and Reader would authorise the payments online.

- 11488 To consider Assertion 10 – Assertion 10 confirms that the Parish Council uses digital systems and personal data responsibly, securely, transparently, and in line with legal requirements.

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Auditors may ask for the Parish Council to prove compliance, so it must be clearly documented and demonstrated. The clerk requested that all Councillors set up their gov.uk email addresses. The website needs to be updated and the clerk agreed to put a request in The Box to ask for help. **AP.** The clerk confirmed that a Data Management policy, an email policy, and a privacy notice had been drafted and would be circulated for review prior to the next meeting.

- 11489 Reports from Councillors (for information only) – Cllr Melton suggested a drain, gulley or soak away be installed on The Green. It was agreed to notify the Trustees of The Green and seek more advice.

Cllr Reader confirmed that the “no parking” signs for The Green had been repaired and would be erected.

It was confirmed that if Council elections did not take place in 2027 and Parish Council elections took place, the Parish Council would need to cover the cost of the election.

Overhanging hedge – it was agreed to follow up with the resident.

- 11490 Correspondence (for information only) An email had been received from a resident regarding soft toys in trees in the Drift, which it was felt now needed tidying up. It was agreed to try and ascertain who had put the toys in the tree.

A note had been received from Breckland Council detailing the implications of the current five-year land supply.

- 11491 To confirm the date of the next Meeting of the Parish Council – **Tuesday 3rd March 2026** at 7.00pm.

That being all, the meeting closed at 8.00pm.

Signed:.....

Dated:.....